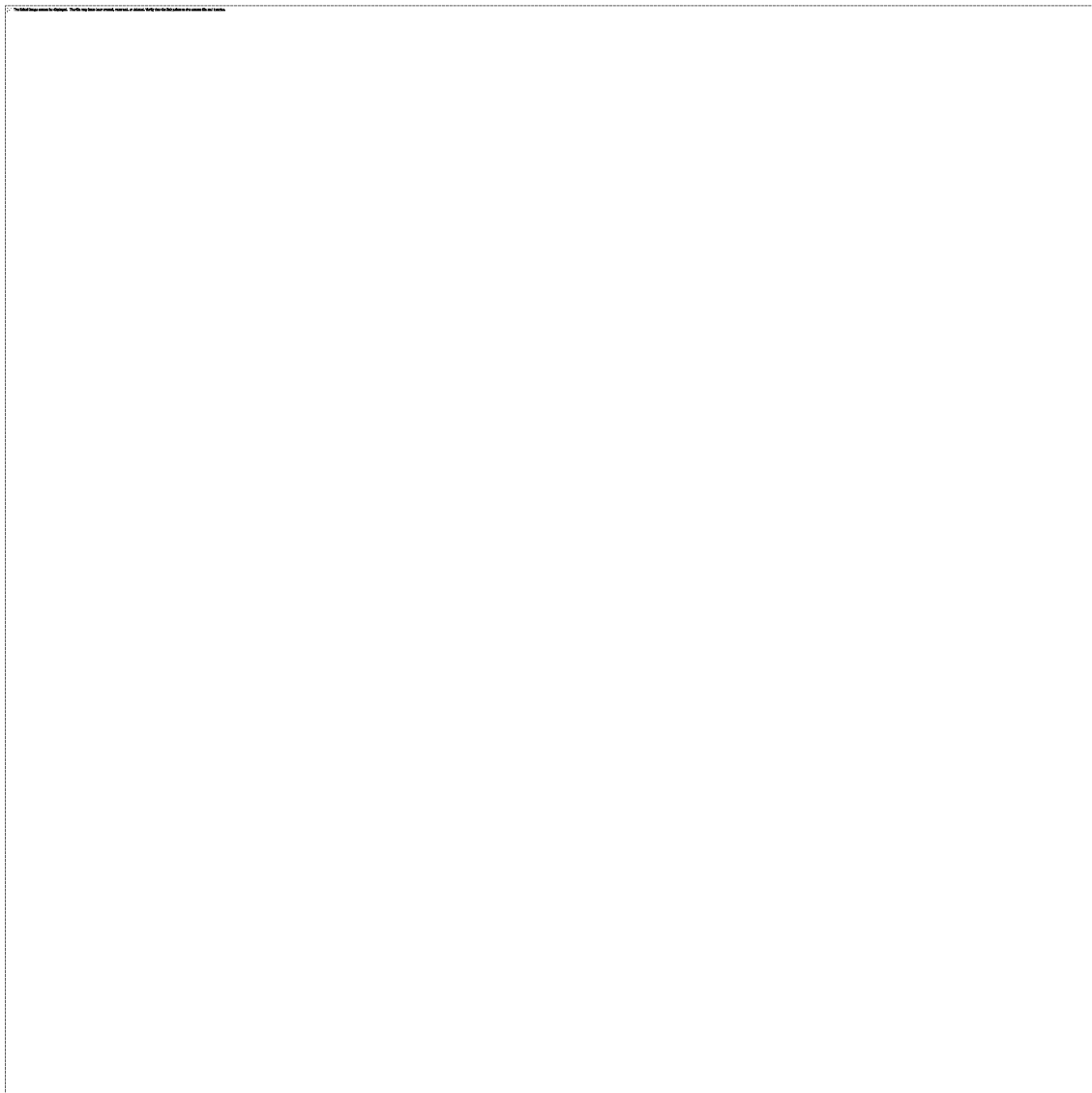


Message

From: Advanced Biofuels USA Joanne Ivancic [info@advancedbiofuelsusa.org]
Sent: 10/16/2019 1:32:57 AM
To: Olechiw, Michael [olechiw.michael@epa.gov]
Subject: Policy, Regulation, Legislation, Litigation, News about Biofuels, Bioeconomy, Renewable Fuels, Recycling Carbon - October 2019 Advanced Biofuels USA

Dear Michael: Here's you monthly review of what you might have missed or forgotten about: US Federal Legislation, Regulation, Litigation. Policy. Requests for Comment on Federal Regulations. Plus links to International Policy Issues. At your fingertips.

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Table of Contents

- [2020 Election Activities](#)
- [Policy: US and International](#)
- [Federal Legislation](#)
- [Federal Regulations](#)
- [Regulations Open for Public Comment](#)
- [Federal Litigation](#)
- [By and About Advanced Biofuels USA](#)
- [Advanced Biofuels USA Policy Analyses and Statements](#)

2020 Election Activities

Watch our new category [2020 Election Activities](#) for Presidential campaigning, as well as House, Senate and local/regional election activities. Also, the category [White House](#) focuses on Presidential involvement with biofuels.

Here are a few examples:

[Special Report on the Climate Crisis in the 2020 Primary](#)

[Farm-State Fury Creates Pressure for Trump as Trade, Energy Pain Collide](#)

[Trump's Billion-Dollar Gambit: An Ethanol Deal to Meet the Demands of Farmers and Big Oil](#)

[Climate Forum Day 2 Highlights](#)

['Very Engaged' Trump Talks Biofuels Policy with U.S. Oil-State Senators](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Policy: US and International

There's lots of overlap with policies, legislation, regulations and litigation. Find articles about [policy developments](#) in the **US, other countries and states** [here](#). For details, click on the name of the country or state that appears along the right margin of our [website](#). Or click on tags such as:

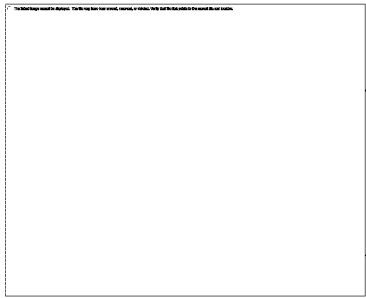
[Transportation Fuels Policy](#)

[Energy Policy](#)

[Environmental Policy](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Federal Legislation



For more legislative news (including Executive Orders), [click here](#). Scroll down for Regulations and Litigation news.

Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States

Michael B. Gerrard and John C. Dernbach, Editors (Environmental Law Institute) Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States provides a “legal playbook” for deep decarbonization in the United States, identifying well over 1,000 legal options for enabling the United States to address one of the greatest problems facing this country ... October 14, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Algae Could Be Turned into Climate-Friendly Food and Fuel

by Stephanie Manuzak (Yale Climate Connections) The newest farm bill offers support for algae growers. — ... “Currently companies in the industry are producing plastics, and recyclable foam, and animal feed for cows and chickens and pigs, and aquafeed for shrimp,” Mark Allen says. Allen is board chair of the Algae Biomass ... October 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Cruel Summer

by Ron Kotrba (Biodiesel Magazine) A series of unfortunate events this summer—all caused by U.S. government action or inaction—has led to a precarious situation in the biodiesel sector, but there may be a silver lining. — ... The volume of SREs (small oil refinery exemptions) granted has exploded during the ... October 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Senate Bill Provides Tax Incentives for Biogas Investments

by Erin Voegele (Biomass Magazine) Sens. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, and Pat Roberts, R-Kan., reintroduced the Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Act on Sept. 24. The bill aims to expand the biogas market by providing a 30 percent investment tax credit to help offset the upfront costs associated with building biodigester systems. "Ohio farmers ... October 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Big Law Firms Draft Model Climate Laws in Pro Bono Project

by Stephanie Russell-Kraft (Bloomberg) More than 20 law firms join pro bono effort led by two law school professors; Draft laws and regulations will be publicly available to local, state and federal lawmakers — More than 20 Big Law firms have signed on to a pro-bono project developing model laws and ... September 27, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Bipartisan Carbon Pricing Bill Introduced

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) Led by Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-Pa.), a group of House lawmakers introduced a bipartisan carbon pricing measure — the MARKET CHOICE Act — that would fund infrastructure investments by pricing carbon and eliminating the gas tax. "We are at a crossroads with regard to infrastructure and climate ... September 27, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Sizzlin' Summit: The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to Algae in the 2019 Farm Bill

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) At the hot and happenin' Algae Biomass Summit in Orlando, Florida, Steve Mayfield, Director at UCSD California Center for Algae

Biotechnology and Martin Sabarsky, CEO of Cellana, gave this illuminating introduction of some of the latest policy highlights from the 2018 Farm Bill and how it ... September 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Ethanol Blog: Economist Proposes Two RFS Changes to Appease Oil, Ethanol

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) With a reported big deal for biofuels in flux, an economist at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign put forward a plan on Thursday to account for more than 4 billion gallons of biofuels exempted to small refineries from the Renewable Fuel Standard from 2016 ... September 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

NGVAmerica Members Host Senator Ted Cruz

(NGVAmerica/NGV Journal) NGVAmerica members hosted a facility tour and policy roundtable with Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) to discuss the importance of parity for natural gas powered vehicles. VIA Metropolitan Transit, San Antonio's public transit agency, joined with NGVAmerica to host Senator Cruz at its CNG fueling station, the largest in North America. ... September 20, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Davis Introduces Pro-Ethanol Legislation

(The Telegraph) Local ethanol officials are lauding the Small Refinery Exemption Fairness Act of 2019 introduced Wednesday by U.S. Rep. Rodney Davis, R-Taylorville. Davis introduced the bill after the EPA continues to increase the number of small refineries exempted from the Renewable Fuel Standard. Davis' bill would require the EPA administrator to use ... September 19, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Biofuels Threatened as Push Builds for Electric Vehicles

by Ben Nuelle (Agri-Pulse) Biofuel advocates may be fuming about the Environmental Protection Agency's recent actions granting small refinery exemptions to oil refineries, but they'd better check their rearview mirror. Electric vehicles may soon have policy in place to put them in the energy passing lane as climate talks in ... September 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

The New Face of Climate Activism Is Young, Angry — and Effective

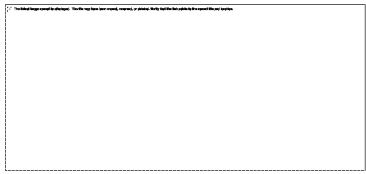
by Ella Nilsen (Vox) A growing sea of crusaders known as the Sunrise Movement has helped put climate change on the national agenda. Most aren't even 30. — ... The three-bedroom apartment in Washington's Columbia Heights neighborhood is one of a handful of so-called movement houses around the country where ... September 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Full Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Hearing on Minerals and Clean Energy Technologies

(Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources) Opening Statement Hearing to Examine the Minerals Needed for Clean Energy Senator Lisa Murkowski — ... Minerals are the fundamental building blocks for any modern technology, whether they are light bulbs or computers or airplanes. In the energy world, batteries don't work without ... September 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

Federal Regulation



See also articles in [Legislation](#) and [Litigation](#) for overlapping topics.

[National Voter Poll Shows Strong Support for RFS, Biodiesel Use](#)

(National Biodiesel Board) The National Biodiesel Board released results Oct. 9 of an annual national poll of registered voters designed to measure awareness of and attitudes toward biodiesel and federal policies that support the industry. The results show a candidate's support for policies to promote clean energy, including biodiesel and renewable ... October 10, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Ethanol Blog: Governors Ask Trump to Take Executive Actions on Biofuels](#)

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) First and foremost, the group asked Trump to expedite any new rulemaking process aimed at the waivers issue. ... As part of the biofuels announcement last week, the Trump administration also directed EPA and USDA to take steps to address barriers to the use ... October 10, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Industry Veterans Introduce Comprehensive Market, Policy Analysis](#)

(Rock House Advisors and Playmaker Strategies/Biodiesel Magazine) Over the past three years Playmaker Strategies, based in Washington, D.C., and Rock House Advisors of Jefferson City, Missouri, have teamed up to write and produce "Biodiesel and Renewable Diesel Policy, Regulatory and Market Perspectives." For more than two decades, the authors of ... October 9, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Investors Ask GM to Join in

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) A group of large investors is calling on GM to join a voluntary emissions deal struck between California, Ford and three other automakers — a deal that's currently the subject of a Trump administration antitrust investigation, Pro's Alex Guillén reports. "Joining the agreement with California ... October 9, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

President Trump's 'Giant' Biofuels Package Is Decidedly Small

by Tristan R. Brown (Seeking Alpha) Summary — The "giant package" that President Donald Trump had promised to the U.S. biofuels sector back in August was finally unveiled late last week. While the plan's details continue to be scarce, those that have been provided suggest that the plan won't do ... October 8, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Rep. Axne, Sen. Klobuchar Urge USDA to Conduct Economic Impact Report on EPA Biofuel

(Office of Representative Cindy Axne (D-IA-3) Axne, Klobuchar express concern regarding recent EPA statement claiming "zero evidence" that biofuel waivers are hurting ethanol producers, request USDA conduct an economic impact report — Today (October 3, 2019), U.S. Rep. Cindy Axne (D-IA-03) and Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) sent a letter to U.S. ... October 8, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

US Voters Show Strong Support for Ethanol, Renewable Fuel Standard

(Biofuels International) A new nationwide US survey conducted by Morning Consult has found strong support for ethanol and the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Support for the latter has reached its highest level since the Renewable

Fuels Association (RFA) began polling on RFS support in 2016. The survey additionally found that ... October 7, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

The Present and Future for Pure-Plays: The Digest's Multi-Slide Guide to Pacific Ethanol

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Pacific Ethanol is a leading producer and marketer of low-carbon renewable fuels and high-quality alcohol products, and in some ways more importantly, they are a beacon for us to understand the future of ... October 7, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Ya Happy Now? Trump Administration Reveals Grand Bargain on Biofuels Volumes, E15, Small Refinery Waivers

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) In today's Digest, the 4-Point Agreement, the backstory, the Glad Tidings, the Unfinished Business, and reaction from the stakeholders as we parse out the impact on future volumes, waivers, backfills, RINs, E15, blender pumps and more, The 4-Point Agreement The Administration announced that the ... October 7, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

White House Nixes Climate Change Language from Vehicle Emissions Proposal

by Rebecca Beitsch (The Hill) The White House removed language calling climate change a "serious challenge" from a proposal that limits California's ability to set tougher vehicle emissions standards, according to reporting from E&E News. A draft of the document obtained by E&E shows the White House striking the phrase "while global climate ... October 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

President Trump Delivers on a Key Promise to American Farmers as EPA, USDA Announce Agreement on Promoting Biofuels

(Environmental Protection Agency) Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue issued the following statements after President Donald J. Trump successfully negotiated an agreement on the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS): "President Trump's leadership has led to an agreement that continues to promote ... October 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Survey Finds Strong Opposition to EPA Oil Refinery Waivers, Strong Support for RFS

(Renewable Fuels Association) Registered voters oppose the Trump administration's actions to exempt oil refineries from renewable fuel blending obligations by a margin of nearly two to one, according to new polling data released today by the Renewable Fuels Association. The nationwide survey, by Morning Consult, also found strong support for ethanol .. October 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Ethanol's Impact Lauded in Wake of Saudi Attack

by Candace Krebs (Ag Journal) ... "What people don't realize is that shale provides a particular very light type of oil, and we can't use that exclusively with the way our refineries are configured," explains Scott Richman, chief economist for the Renewable Fuels Association. "Total imports of oil into U.S. have ... October 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

An Identity Crisis—Ethanol Blending is a Refinery?

by Dave VanderGriend (Urban Air Initiative/Biofuels Digest) ... (A)nyone who owns a blender pump woke up one day in June to find out they were a refiner! Actually, a “fuel manufacturer” to be exact, with all the numbing, strangling regulations that go with it. While the fire is raging throughout the ... October 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Daschle, Sombke Call Pending SAFE Rule the Path to Higher Ethanol Volumes

(Safe Gasoline Campaign) In a wide-ranging interview on a popular South Dakota Business Radio program, Sombke and Daschle stressed that moving to high octane gasoline is a way to build on the success of the Renewable Fuel Standard. The path to get there is through the Safe Affordable Fuel Efficiency (SAFE) rule currently ... September 30, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Corn and Soybean Leaders Compel Lawmakers to Stop EPA's Anti-Biofuels Actions

by Dave Blower Jr. (The News Gazette) The Indiana Soybean Alliance (ISA) and the Indiana Corn Growers Association (ICGA) along with 12 other Indiana farm, ethanol and biodiesel plants and allied industries wrote to Indiana's congressional delegation expressing frustration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to compel the ... September 27, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Farmers Urge Trump to Address 'Economic Crisis' Facing Biofuels Industry

by Ken Anderson (Brownfield Ag News) Leaders in the renewable fuels industry say it's urgent that President Trump fix the demand destruction and “economic crisis” created by RFS waivers. Ron Heck of Perry, Iowa, secretary of the National

Biodiesel Board, says there's no time to wait. "Many farmers are losing patience with ... September 27, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Wondering What If — Real-World Fuels Are Needed as Part of Real-World Testing to Prove Ethanol's Worth in Helping to Boost Octane and Lower Emissions.

by Steve Vander Griend (Ethanol Producer Magazine/Urban Air Initiative) ... While we are all glad Reid vapor pressure (RVP) relief for E15 was finalized, limiting us to E15 makes this a small victory rather than the game-changer it could have been. While the RVP issue, waivers and the renewable volume ... September 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Report: U.S. Biofuels Help Drive Environmental Progress

(Growth Energy) Growth Energy, the nation's largest association of biofuel producers, released a new report examining the potential impact of a growing role for U.S. biofuels in America's clean energy future. The report was authored by Ramboll, a global research and management firm specializing in sustainable development, at the request of Growth Energy. ... September 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Prospects for Biofuels Use by Other Transportation Modes

by Stephanie Mercier (Farm Journal AgWeb) ... While supporters of the U.S. biofuel industry will no doubt continue to advocate for some remedial action by the administration on the SRE/RFS issues, they should not overlook the fact that the U.S. market for fuel for surface vehicles, like cars, light trucks, ... September 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

RFA Corrects Wheeler's Misstatements about Ethanol Demand, SREs

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The Renewable Fuels Association sent a letter to U.S. EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler Sept. 25 criticizing statements he made during a Sept. 19 congressional hearing where he claimed small refinery exemptions (SREs) are not impacting the ethanol industry. Wheeler appeared before the U.S. House of Representatives ... September 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

New Mexico Commits to Climate Action in the Face of Trump Administration's Attack on Clean Car Standards

(Sierra Club) Today, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham announced that New Mexico will join 14 other states in adopting clean car standards requiring new cars sold in the state to emit fewer greenhouse gases. They also mandate an increasing percentage of cars sold in the state to be zero emissions. The governor ... September 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Minnesota Releases Plan to Reduce Harmful Vehicle Emissions

by Kim Wynn (Grand Forks Herald) The Department of Transportation aims to tackle vehicle pollution in an attempt to bolster use of electric cars and increase biofuels infrastructure. — As Minnesota has failed to meet its goal of a 15% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 to 2015, the Department ... September 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Trump Administration to Take Away Transportation Funding for CA Due to Its Dirty Air

(Our Daily Planet) Looking to take further action against the State of California, the Environmental Protection Agency under the guise of enforcing the state's non-compliance with the Clean Air Act (CAA) says it will take away billions in federal funds provided to the state of California to implement low carbon transportation ...
September 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Market Movers

by Lisa Gibson (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Projections for E15 have been inconsistent since the May 31 Reid vapor pressure waiver. Ethanol Producer Magazine explores some of the factors that will influence the blend's trajectory in the coming years. ... Before the waiver, retailers selling E15 had already planned to increase ...
September 24, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

RFA to Lawmakers: Thanks for Letter to EPA

by Carrie Muehling (Energy.AgWired.com) The Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) is applauding lawmakers for support of the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS). RFA thanked a bipartisan group of 25 members of the U.S. House of Representatives for asking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to prospectively restore RFS volumes lost to small refinery exemptions. In a ...
September 24, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Your Vegan Diet and Paper Straws Aren't Going to Save the Planet, But These Three Policies Can

by John Cumbers (Forbes) When it comes to action on climate change, what's good for the planet must also benefit the economy and the livelihoods of people, which are more often than not at the forefront of the minds of voters and can make or break a government. When oil and ...
September 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

GZ Energy to Launch Digital Credit-Trading Platform in Q4

(GZ Energy LLC/Biodiesel Magazine) Physical commodities brokerage GZ Energy LLC plans to launch its groundbreaking digital trading platform, GZX, in October. GZX will provide renewable fuel market participants with a means to discreetly trade separated (K2) renewable Identification numbers (RINs), California Low Carbon Fuel Standard credits, and Oregon Clean Fuels Program credits ... September 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Trump Administration Announces One National Program Rule on Federal Preemption of State Fuel Economy Standards

(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) President Trump promised the American people that his Administration would address and correct the current fuel economy and greenhouse gas emissions standards, and today (September 19, 2019), his Administration is taking steps to fulfill this promise. Today, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ... September 20, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Market Outlook for Low Carbon Fuels

by Nora Goldstein (BioCycle Magazine) Overall, demand for RNG is strong in spite of an oversupply of D3 RINs in 2018. — In 2018, cellulosic biofuel producers, including those making renewable natural gas (RNG), outperformed the annual Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) quantity for D3 RINs (Renewable Identification Numbers) set by ... September 19, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

New Study Stresses Ethanol's Benefits for Energy Security

(Renewable Fuels Association) A new study shows that the Renewable Fuel Standard not only saves drivers money at the gas pump every day, but also enhances energy security by greatly reducing or even eliminating the blow to our nation's drivers when global oil production is disrupted. The analysis confirms that the growing supply ... September 19, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

NBB Member Testifies on Biodiesel's Clean Energy Contribution

(Biofuels International) A member of the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) has testified to the House Small Business Committee on Rural Development on the contribution of biodiesel to the clean energy economy. Thomas Brooks, general manager of Western Dubuque Biodiesel, spoke at a hearing on 'Growing the Clean Energy Economy', in ... September 19, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Trump Tweets He's Revoking California's Tailpipe Emissions Waiver while Visiting State

by Miranda Green (The Hill) President Trump announced on Wednesday that his administration will be removing California's tailpipe emissions waiver under the Clean Air Act, a decision likely to face fierce backlash in courts. Trump made the announcement via Twitter while touring California for private fundraisers and a visit to the ... September 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Will the RFS Deal Protect Innovation and Our Planet?

by Stephanie Batchelor (Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)/Biofuels Digest) As we speculate on the details and implications of the administration's renewable fuels deal, the future of an entire green industry hangs in the balance. The debate over the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) has become muddled with

rhetoric about special interests and government ... September 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Trump Administration to Revoke California's Power to Set Stricter Auto Emissions Standards](#)

by Juliet Eilperin and Brady Dennis (Washington Post) The Trump administration will revoke California's right to set stricter air pollution for cars and light trucks on Wednesday, according to two senior administration officials, as part of a larger effort to weaken an Obama-era climate policy curbing greenhouse gas emissions from ... September 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

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Regulations Open for Public Comment

[House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis Request for Information DEADLINE: November 22, 2019](#)

(House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis) The climate crisis already is harming communities across America. The costs and impacts to the United States in the coming decades could exceed hundreds of billions of dollars annually. To limit global warming to no more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, global net carbon ... September 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 6478 — The IRS Is Soliciting Comments Concerning Biofuel Producer Credit. DEADLINE: December 2, 2019

(Internal Revenue Service/Federal Register) ... The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The IRS is ... October 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

MORE OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

Federal Litigation



For more on federal litigation, [click here](#).

Trial Aims to Explain How a Utah Polygamist Used an Alleged Armenian Gangster to Launder Biofuel Money to Turkey

by Nate Carlisle (Salt Lake Tribune) The possible witness list for the trial of Lev Aslan Dermen includes the Utah polygamist prosecutors say the defendant both conspired with and extorted, the businessman who laundered money to a Turkish airline and a pharmaceutical company, the guitarist for a 1990s Irish rock ... October 14, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Court: EPA Must Consider Environmental Impact When Setting Ethanol Mandate

by Chuck Abbott (Successful Farming) The U.S. appeals court in Washington unanimously ordered the EPA to reconsider its Renewable Fuel Standard for 2018 because it failed to account for the potential impact of full-throttle corn production on endangered species and habitat. Even though the decision was directed at agency deliberations October 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Groups Sue Federal Government over Move to Block CA Emission Standards

by Betsy Lillian (NGT News) Nine environmental advocacy groups are suing the Trump administration over its attempt to prevent California and other states from setting their own vehicle emission standards. The complaint challenges a final rule recently issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), which claims that all state programs ... October 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Small Refineries Petition Courts: Agriculture, Biofuel Groups Await Announcement on White House RFS Deal

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) Two small refiners not receiving exemptions to the Renewable Fuel Standard in EPA's latest round of waivers announced on Aug. 9, continue to fight the agency's rejection in federal court. At the same time, agriculture and biofuel interests continue to wait for a potential biofuels ... October 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

Audio of Private Meeting Shows Oil Industry Ripping into Trump Administration

by Ben Lefebvre (Politico) At a closed-door meeting this summer, oil and gas industry lawyers criticized the Trump administration's failure to recruit enough qualified people to secure policy victories that would outlast this presidency, according to a recording of the gathering. The audio from an Independent Petroleum Producers of America meeting. September 30, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

By and About Advanced Biofuels USA

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Advanced Biofuels USA Current Policy Analyses and Suggestions

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For example, a suggestion for taxing the non-renewable part of transportation fuels is [here](#).

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

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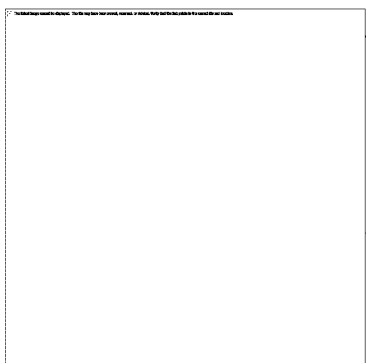
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Joanne Ivancic, Executive Director

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